

BOOK NOTICE

JOHN SHELHAS and RUSSELL GREENBERG, eds. 1996. **Forest Patches in Tropical Landscapes**. (ISBN 1-55963-426, pbk; ISBN 1-55963-425-1, hbk). Island Press, Box 7, Covelo, CA, 95428, U.S.A. 800-828-1301. \$30.00 (pbk), \$50.00 (hbk). 426 pp, tables, figures, maps, photos, satellite images, index.

This book contains results of a symposium hosted by the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center. It includes an extensive introduction and 19 chapters contributed by some of the most active field researchers studying forest patches in the Tropics. Original concepts and thought-provoking guidelines for further investigation are preposed in Chapters 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 12, 14, and 17. The remaining chapters largely contain case studies that are extremely useful, especially to indicate where much more data is needed for us to efficiently promote forest patches as a mechanism to conserve significant elements of tropical biological diversity. The summary chapter (19) by Fisher and Bunch is useful because it skillfully presents the problems encountered in fostering forest patches in the tropics, and because of its frequent citation of symposia results, independently published works, and other publications out of the mainstream of scientific literature indices.

In summary, this book absolutely essential for the library of any conservation biologist, landscape ecologist, or land use planner. The wealth of information, practicality of presentation, extensive literature citations and thrifty price, make it ideal for use in courses as well. I highly recommend this book without any hesitation.—*John Pipoly, III*